IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/695,941 Confirmation No. 6279

Applicant : Hammer, et al.

Filed : October 30, 2003

TC/A.U. : 1772

Title: : Cellulose-Hydrate-Containing Food Casing with Vinylpyrrolidone

Polymers

Examiner : O Hern, Brent T.

Docket No. : P179 1130.1

Customer No.: 59554

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR \$1.116

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed December 8, 2006, this Amendment and Response is submitted. No additional fees are believed to be required. However, a formal request for any extension and payment of fees is made below in the event such fees will be necessary. Please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected on the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this submission;

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this submission; and Conclusions begin on page 9 of this submission.